

Tsenguunjav Byambasuren

(Last update: Aug 2025)

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| CONTACT | Cornell University Ithaca, NY 14853 USA | tb497@cornell.edu https://sites.google.com/view/tsenguunjavbyambasuren/ |
| ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT | Trinity College Dublin , Dublin, Ireland Assistant Professor in Economics, Oct 2025 – | |
| EDUCATION | Cornell University , Ithaca, NY Ph.D. in Applied Economics and Management, 2019 – Aug 2025 Cornell University , Ithaca, NY Master of Science in Applied Economics and Management, 2017 – 2019 University of Finance and Economics , Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia Bachelor of Science in Economics (with distinction), 2009 – 2013 | |
| AFFILIATION | Monash University, Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (CEVAW) Research Affiliate | 2025 – present |
| FIELDS | Labor Economics, Development Economics | |
| PUBLISHED PAPERS | “Cooking Fuel Choice and Child Mortality in India” (with Arnab K. Basu, Nancy H. Chau and Neha Khanna) <i>Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization</i> , 2024, 222: 240-265. Featured in Cornell Chronicle, The Hindu, The Times of India, Times Now, Press Trust of India, Medical Xpress George F. Warren Award for Outstanding Paper, Cornell University | |
| WORKING PAPERS | “Automation Threat and Labor Market Power” This paper studies the role of automation threat in firms’ labor market power. Employing the production approach, I show that workers in an average German manufacturer receive 79 cents on the marginal euro. Using automation threat proxied by local labor market regions’ exposure to industrial robots instrumented by plausibly exogenous shift-share factors, I find that robot exposure increases employer power over routine workers in areas with weaker unions in East Germany with spatial frictions. The empirical findings are consistent with the wage bargaining model where employers retain the “right-to-manage” their workforce composition and unions representing different workers separately bargain with the firm. “Public Works Program, Labor Supply, and Monopsony” (with Nancy H. Chau and Vidhya Soundararajan) This paper studies the role of changes in workforce composition in monopsony power. We develop a monopsony model in which a firm’s wage markdown—the wedge between MRPL and wage—is a weighted average of markdowns for heterogeneous workers. We empirically illustrate the theory using India’s National | |

Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), which generates non-manufacturing jobs in rural areas. Consistent with the model predictions, at manufacturing firms, we find that the program increases average markdowns by crowding out mobile workers and effectively increasing the share of immobile workers with low labor supply elasticity.

“Work Incentives, Earnings and Domestic Violence: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa” (with Anh Nguyen)

Using representative data from over 30 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, this paper presents nearly continent-wide evidence that increasing women’s work incentives and earnings potential, induced by artisanal mining and commodity price rises, decreases violence within the household. We leverage spatial variation in gold suitability and exogenous temporal variation in global gold prices, conditional on industrial mining, to create variation in the profitability of artisanal mining. We identify increases in women’s activities in mining and retail industries relative to men and the rise in women’s intrahousehold bargaining power as mechanisms for the decrease in the risk of intimate partner violence.

“Alcohol Consumption and Intimate Partner Violence: Long-Term Effects of Temporary Alcohol Ban” (with Arnab K. Basu and Nancy H. Chau)

This study traces the impact of a partial liquor ban – from launch to reversal – on alcohol consumption and intimate partner violence. We decompose the long-run effects of a temporary and selective liquor ban on drinking behavior and women’s experience with intimate partner violence to include a policy impact and a policy reversal effect. Leveraging neighbor states comparable and sufficiently isolated in our context as the control group, we employ difference-in-differences and event-study approaches to identify the causal impacts of a policy that shuts down hard liquor-serving local bars. We find that alcohol consumption in bars significantly reduced over the policy period and rebounded after the policy removal, with no impacts on home drinking. Consistent with a policy-induced change in the volume of alcohol consumption during and after the alcohol ban, we find that physical violence declined during the prohibition and overshot its starting level following the reversal only in high-wealth households, the primary consumers of expensive hard liquors most likely affected by the ban.

RESEARCH IN
PROGRESS

“Capital Market Integration, Labor Market Distortions, and Labor Misallocation” (with Nancy H. Chau, Anh Nguyen and Vidhya Soundararajan)

This paper examines the labor market effects of foreign capital liberalization in India, with a focus on labor misallocation and employer market power—a key source of misallocation. We estimate the firm-specific labor markdowns—the wedge between MRPL and wage—as a proxy for monopsony power. Exploiting a foreign direct investment liberalization episode as a natural experiment, we employ difference-in-differences and event study designs to identify the causal impacts of capital market integration on the labor market. For firms with ex-ante high MRPL, liberalization increases employment by 22% and wage bills by 20% and reduces MRPL by 11% and labor markdowns by 13%, with no impact on wages relative to low MRPL firms. The liberalization increases employment and wages and reduces markdowns for men at high male MRPL firms but reduces MRPL and markdowns for women at high female MRPL firms.

POLICY
WORK

“Exploring Geospatial-Based Approaches to Develop a Pre-Census National Sampling Frame in Armenia” (with Saida Ismailakhunova, Avralt-Od Purevjav and Sarchil Qader), *Under Review*

World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 11039, 2025.

Featured in Devdiscourse

“Distributional Impact of Energy Tariff Reforms in the Republic of Georgia” (with Saida Ismailakhunova, Avralt-Od Purevjav and Juan Carlos Palacios Mora)

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| SELECTED PRE-PHD PAPERS | “Economic Impacts of the Government Investment Policy: Dynamic CGE Model” (with Avralt-Od Purevjav and Erdenetungalag Erdenekhuyag) <i>International Journal of System Dynamics Applications</i> , 2015, 4(1): 96-118. | |
| | “The Failure to Learn from Boom-Bust Cycles: A DSGE Approach” (with Avralt-Od Purevjav) | |
| RELEVANT POSITIONS | Research Assistant to Professor Nancy H. Chau | Summer/Fall 2018, Summer 2023/2025 |
| | Research Assistant to Professor Arnab K. Basu | Summer 2022 |
| | Research Assistant to Professor Eswar Prasad | Spring 2019 |
| TEACHING EXPERIENCE | Cornell University, Ithaca, NY | |
| | International Trade and Finance (Undergraduate, AEM/ECON 2300) | |
| | Coordinating Teaching Assistant to Professor Arnab K. Basu | Spring 2025 |
| | Teaching Assistant to Professor Arnab K. Basu | Spring 2022-2024 |
| | Teaching Assistant to Professor David R. Lee | Spring 2021 |
| | Introduction to Macroeconomic Theory and Policy (Undergraduate, AEM 1300) | |
| | Coordinating Teaching Assistant to Professor Arnab K. Basu | Summer 2024/2025 |
| | Applied Managerial Economics (Undergraduate, AEM 4100) | |
| | Teaching Assistant to Professor Terry Alexander | Fall 2022/2023 |
| | Research and Methods (Master of Professional Studies, AEM 6991) | |
| | Teaching Assistant to Professors Mark Conostas, Aija Leiponen, Daniela Scur | Fall 2021 |
| | Consumer Behavior (Undergraduate, AEM 3440) | |
| | Teaching Assistant to Professor Alison Shields | Fall 2020 |
| PRESENTATIONS | ASSA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia (scheduled) | 2026 |
| | 11th Conference of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality at the World Bank, 6th EALE-SOLE-AASLE Conference in Toronto, UNU-WIDER Development Conference in Helsinki, 16th IAB PhD Workshop in Nuremberg, University of Georgia (Agricultural and Applied Economics), ASSA Annual Meeting in San Francisco | 2025 |
| | NEUDC Conference at Northeastern University (presenter and discussant), AEP Seminar at Cornell University, EALE Conference at Norwegian School of Economics, EEA-ESEM Annual Meeting at Erasmus School of Economics, Online Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society, SOLE Annual Meeting in Portland OR, MWIEDC Conference at the University of Chicago, STEG Annual Conference at NYU Abu Dhabi | 2024 |
| | 24th IZA Summer School in Labor Economics in Berlin, MWIEDC Conference at the University of Houston (presenter and discussant), PacDev Conference at the University of Washington | 2023 |
| | 17th Annual Conference at Indian Statistical Institute, APPAM Fall Research Conference in Washington DC, WEAI Annual Conference in Portland OR | 2022 |

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| AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS | Graduate Fellowship, Dyson School, Cornell | 2019 – 2020, Summer 2020, 2024 – 2025 |
| | IAB PhD Workshop Travel Grant, Institute for Employment Research (IAB), Germany | 2025 |
| | EEA Travel Grant, European Economic Association | 2024 |
| | Dyson Graduate Teaching Assistant – Outstanding Service Award, Cornell | 2024 |
| | Graduate Teaching Assistant Fellowship, Dyson School, Cornell | 2020 – 2024 |
| | Cornell Graduate School Conference Travel Grant | 2022, 2023, 2024(x2), 2025 |
| | Graduate Assistant Fellowship, Dyson School, Cornell | Summer 2021 – 2023 |
| | Fulbright Scholarship for Master’s Studies | 2018 – 2019 |
| | Summer Internship Grant (declined), CIPA, Cornell | 2018 |
| | Tuition Fellowship, Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA), Cornell | 2017 – 2018 |
| | Dean’s List, University of Finance and Economics, Mongolia | 2010 – 2012 |
| OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE | Consultant, Poverty and Equity Group, The World Bank | 2023 – present |
| | Summer Intern, Global Indicators Group, The World Bank | 2019 |
| | Economist, Research and Statistics Department, Central Bank of Mongolia | 2013 – 2017 |
| AFFILIATIONS | American Economic Association, Member | 2024 – present |
| | European Economic Association, Member | 2024 – present |
| | The Econometric Society, Member | 2023 – 2025 |
| | Cornell Center for Social Sciences, Affiliated Student | 2023 – 2025 |
| | Cornell University, Diversity in Cornell Economics (DICE), General Member | 2022 – 2025 |
| SKILLS | Software/Programming | |
| | Stata, R, MATLAB, ArcGIS, EViews, LaTeX | |
| | Language | |
| | English (fluent), Mongolian (native) | |
| REFERENCES | Professor Nancy H. Chau (Committee Chair) The Dyson School 201A Warren Hall, Ithaca NY, 14853 (607) 255-4463 hyc3@cornell.edu | Professor Michèle Belot The ILR School, and Department of Economics 272 Ives Hall, Ithaca NY, 14853 (607) 255-5345 mb2693@cornell.edu |
| | Professor Arnab K. Basu The Dyson School 441 Warren Hall, Ithaca NY, 14853 (607) 255-6280 ab362@cornell.edu | Professor Ravi Kanbur The Dyson School, and Department of Economics 301-J Warren Hall, Ithaca NY, 14853 (607) 255-7966 sk145@cornell.edu |